

California Historical Records Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2008

Location: Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum, Yorba Linda

Members Present: Gary Brutsch, Gabriele Carey, Christine Figueroa, Wendy Franklin, Jim Henley, Jim Hofer, Gary Kurutz, Nancy Lenoil, Waverly Lowell, Laren Metzger, Charles Palm, Chuck Wilson, Jennifer Martinez Wormser

Staff Present: Sherrie Lujan

Meeting was called to order by State Coordinator Nancy Lenoil at 10:01 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Wendy offered one correction on page six relating to her report from the Department of Parks and Recreation. The purpose of the grant is to conduct a one-year planning project and develop a statewide preservation plan for heritage institutions. The organizations involved in the grant are State Parks, State Library, The California Preservation Program, California Association of Museums and Historic Monterey, which is a regional organization made up of number of different agencies.

A motion was made by Gary Brutsch and seconded by Waverly to approve the minutes of October 18, 2007 as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Reappointment of Board Members

Board members will remain the same.

Report of the State Agencies

State Archives – Nancy reported that Governor Schwarzenegger had issued a hiring freeze and has requested that agencies reduce non-essential spending. It is unclear whether this will affect the State Archives since the Secretary of State is a separate constitutional office. All vacant positions in the State Archives have been filled.

For an update for “The Friends of California Archives”, see report given by the State Coordinator.

State Library – Gary Kurutz reported that the Library still has its federal grants program and is still giving out grants to places like the Bancroft Library and Huntington Library for processing of collections. Relocation from the Library and Courts building will commence soon in preparation for a 55 million dollar restoration of that building. In two years, the Sutro Library will be moved into the renovated J. Paul Leonard Library at San Francisco State University.

State Parks – Wendy reported that Blaine Lamb has filled the position of Chief of the Archeology, History and Museums Division. The appointment took affect in November 2007. Parks still has a vacant archivist position. A new collection of lifeguard records from Orange County was recently acquired. Another recent collection was received relating to Auburn State Recreation Area from two rangers who recently retired. The E-Museum web component will soon be launched in June of this year. One of the first collections to go online will be the photographs from the CCC collections.

Reports for Other Organizations/Representatives

Jim Henley reported on a couple of collections that have been received at SAMCC, including the Eleanor McClatchy personal papers and the Crystal Creamery collection, which are mostly mergers and acquisition records.

Jennifer reported that SCA is meeting in Monterey from April 30th to May 3rd. The theme is Safe Harbors in a Digital Ocean. Tim Naftali from the Nixon Library and Rosemary Bebe and Rob Sanchowitz will be featured speakers.

Waverly reported that the California Digital Library is working on a project to integrate into one massive database all the UC image collections on all ten campuses. All the campuses have been told to take a 7% budget cut for the next fiscal year. The CDL has no archivist, which is a problem for the profession. As a result, there is no one advocating for archives and for future development and expansion of the OAC and its services.

A motion was made by Chuck and seconded by Gary Brutsch to send a letter to the head of CDL regarding the board's concern that there is not an archival presence within that organization currently.

Action item: Waverly will draft a letter to the head of the CDL for Nancy to sign.

Chuck asked the board to disseminate information about SCA's Mink scholarship to anyone who might be eligible to apply. The scholarship defrays some of the cost to attend the society's annual meeting. The application is on the SCA website and the deadline to apply is February 29, 2008.

Strategic Plan Review

Charles suggested that the board be divided into subgroups that can study particular issues in the strategic plan with the objective of reporting at the next meeting.

A motion was made by Jennifer and seconded by Jim Henley to create subgroups for each issue in the plan. The subgroups will provide a report at the board's June meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Action item: Give each issue to a subgroup to review. Each subgroup will report on its deliberations at the June meeting. Nancy will contact each board member to see what they are interested in and will send a list to everyone.

The board adjourned for lunch at 11:50 a.m.

The board reconvened at 1:05 p.m.

CHRA Grants Update

Regrant Project – Laren requested that the deadline for the project be extended to the end of June to allow all regrantees an opportunity to complete their project work. Waverly suggested the board put good grant applications on the web as models for other people to follow.

2008 Administrative Grant – Laren reported that The Friends of California Archives has become the new fiscal agent for this grant.

SNAP Grant Application –Laren asked board members to send him their comments on this application by Thursday, February 28, 2008.

Action item: Board members will send their comments to Laren by February 28th.

Replevin Law

Nancy reported that Assembly Member John Laird is interested in carrying this legislation. It has not yet been introduced.

Action item: SCA will invite Mr. Laird to lunch in Monterey during the annual meeting.

Other Business

Charles requested that someone be the contact person with a cell phone in case of emergencies for future meetings. Nancy volunteered to be the contact person.

Next Meeting

Nancy mentioned that we could possibly have the next meeting in conjunction with WAI in San Diego at the end of June. Nancy will check with Sydney Bailey, WAI Administrator, to see about meeting space during this time. Jennifer suggested that a reception the night before the board meeting to meet the WAI students would be beneficial. Tentatively, the reception was scheduled for June 25, 2008 with the board meeting on June 26, 2008

Nancy made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Chuck. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

A tour of the Nixon Library and Museum followed.